

## **COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION**

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps (from an idea by Dirk de Broeck)
<b>Last Updated</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
<b>Title of Walk</b>	Cueva de Tossal del Vaquero and Cocoll airfield
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Castell de Castells KM 7 on the CV752 between Castell de Castells and Tarbena. Park on rough track
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	12
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	420
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	3.5hr 4.5hr
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	M/A
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat: 38.71539, Long: -0.16076
<b>Directions to Start</b>	The CV720 runs into the mountains from Pedreguer passing through Alcalali, Benichembla and arriving at Castell de Castells. Pass through the village and take the CV752 towards Tarbena uphill until you reach track parking on the RHS near KM7.
<b>Short walk description</b>	An easy track ascent to the Cocoll airfield leads to a mountain path to visit a large rocky cave on the slopes of Tossal del Vaquero (es Crestall) before rejoining our outward track to descend to the cars.

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<b>Full Walk Description</b>	<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
Start by walking away from the tarmac road and up the gravel track.	
This curves around to the L and then to the R to pass a large house.	
Here at a junction a tarmac road descends to the L but we ignore this and continue ahead on a less clear track.	650m, 9min
This soon descends and then curves around to the R beside fields and almost immediately turns L on a better track which soon passes a house.	1.1km, 15min
Now continue ahead on a rising track to reach a finger post where you double back to the R on a less clear and grassy track.	1.5km, 23min
Follow this until it reaches the road and here cross slightly to the R and take the descending track leaving the road downhill to the L.	2.3km, 34min
At a junction turn L.	2.6km, 38min
Now follow this steadily rising track up through zig-zags and through a small partially deserted hamlet to eventually reach a finger post.	4.9km, 1hr 14min
Continue ahead to soon run parallel to the runway of Cocoll airfield on your RHS to reach a finger post where you turn L uphill for 50m or so to find a walled circular landing pad on your RHS which makes a good spot for a break.	5.6km, 1hr 25min
Now return down the track and at the junction descend briefly over rough ground to walk out onto the runway where you turn R.	
Follow this briefly looking out for a small path leaving on the LHS and running along almost parallel which starts to descend through scrub and trees.	

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<p>Reach a small crag which you must descend awkwardly to reach a set of abandoned baths!.</p> <p>Walk out onto the terrace in front of you to find a path going off L which you follow.</p> <p>This descends across sometimes marshy ground and descends a little through trees. Look out carefully for a thin path leaving this on the RHS just after a group of trees and take this.</p> <p>This climbs gently away from the path below you becoming clearer all the time to soon curve around to the R where a path joins you from below on your LHS. Keep ahead.</p> <p>Now you are climbing gently up a barranco and past some ruins with a fence and 2 beds (!).</p> <p>Beyond this you cross a terrace and climb up a little to scramble up a small crag and continue ahead to reach the col.</p> <p>Here turn R initially across stony ground heading up towards the summit of Tossal del Vaquero.</p> <p>Soon reach a junction where you turn L with the path ahead less well defined and a little way down from the junction a cairn marks the ascent path to the cave up to the R across bouldery terrain where hands may be necessary for 50m or so.</p> <p>The size of the cave only becomes apparent at the last minute as you breach its final rocky wall. (You can if you wish descend into it for an exploration)</p> <p>Now return to the path with the cairn and turn R.</p> <p>Follow this downhill to a junction where you keep R.</p> <p>Now keep ahead to join a track where you turn L out to a finger post which you passed earlier.</p> <p>Now descend to the L along the track you ascended to reach a junction on the plain</p>	<p>6.1km, 1hr 35min</p> <p>6.7km, 1hr 44min</p> <p>7.4km, 1hr 57min</p> <p>8km, 2hr 10min</p> <p>8.2km, 2hr 15min</p> <p>9.2km, 2hr 34min</p>
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where you turn L and meet the road to return to your cars on the LHS.

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### **Walk Recommendations or restrictions**

None

